



Veterinarian's Checklist for Making Nutritional Recommendations

The primary role of veterinarians in nutritional assessments and recommendations is to explain the “what” and “why” behind the food-related elements of wellness and treatment plans for each patient.

Exam Room Actions

- ❑ Request permission to discuss nutrition with a focus on case-specific needs and/or proactive wellness
- ❑ Review nutritional history already collected and ask open-ended questions to fill any gaps
- ❑ Assess the patient's current nutrition, along with PE and medical history
- ❑ Discuss nutritional options and their benefits
- ❑ Make a specific nutritional recommendation, including why you recommend that for the specific pet's needs
- ❑ Answer clients questions and offer solutions to at-home challenges
- ❑ Connect clients with the practice's designated go-to nutrition advice team member for coaching and follow-up



Maintenance Actions

- ❑ Meet with vendors to stay informed on products
- ❑ Augment nutrition knowledge through CE, journals, and professional sites
- ❑ Lead a whole-team approach with clinic staff, emphasizing the importance of the topic and the clinic's protocol toward nutrition



Veterinary Technician's Checklist for Supporting Nutritional Recommendations

The primary role of veterinary technicians in supporting nutritional assessments and recommendations is to gather initial input from the client at the start of the visit, and then provide practical advice at the end of the visit to succeed at home. It's being a combination of expert, cheerleader, listener, and problem-solver for clients.

Exam Room Actions

- ❑ Gather or confirm nutritional history input from client
- ❑ Once veterinarian recommendation is made, support recommendation by sharing amount to feed, how long a bag or case of food will likely last, cost per day, and how to purchase
- ❑ Offer advice on transitioning to new food
- ❑ Reinforce the duration of feeding of the recommended diet
- ❑ Answer client questions before they leave the visit
- ❑ Follow up on progress through check-ins after the visit

Maintenance Actions

- ❑ Meet with vendors to stay informed on products
- ❑ Augment nutrition knowledge through CE, journals, and professional sites
- ❑ Participate in a whole team approach, assisting to implement clinic's protocol toward nutrition

BONUS: Access a library of on-demand CE for veterinary professionals, by veterinary professionals.

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